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MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

BOSTON

EGYPTIAN ART

Jewelry Room

Department of Egyptian Art
Gallery Guide no. 4

GALLERY BOOK

DEPARTMENT OF EGYPTIAN ART

Jewelry Room
(Gallery IV)

This gallery contains the more important small objects from the excavations carried out by the Harvard University-Museum of Fine Arts Egyptian Expedition in Ethiopia, researches which laid bare the tombs of the royal families of Ethiopia and Meroë. In addition it is used for the exhibition of a selection from the Museum's collection of scarabs and seals, ranging from the Old Kingdom to Roman and Meroitic times, together with a few of the finer amulets of various periods.

Ethiopia and Meroë

Ethiopia is the country bordering the Nile to the south of Egypt, extending from the Third Cataract southward to the region of Khartum. The country was governed by Egypt in the New Kingdom (Eighteenth - Twentieth Dynasties) through Viceroys, and became thoroughly Egyptianized, the administrative centre being at Napata in what is now Dongola Province.

After 1100 B.C. with the weakening of Egyptian power under the Twenty-first Dynasty, the hold of that country over Ethiopia loosened, and between 900 and 750 B.C. we see the rise of a family of local rulers, probably of Libyan origin, who seized the city of Napata, acquired control of the trade routes between Egypt and the Sudan, and levied toll on commerce. By 750 B.C. these local rulers had become sufficiently rich and powerful to conquer first Thebes under Kashta, and then the whole of Egypt under Piankhy, thus forming the Twenty-fifth Egyptian and the First Ethiopian Dynasty. Through the reigns of six kings, Kashta, Piankhy, Shabaka, Shabataka, Tirhaqa, and Tanutamon, this family retained control of Egypt, to be driven out during the reign of Tanutamon by the Assyrians, about 663 B.C. The culture of these kings was essentially Egyptian, the result of

the previous Egyptianizing of the country in the New Kingdom under the Viceroys, strengthened through the direct contact set up by the conquest of Egypt itself. After being driven out of Egypt, the Ethiopians continued to rule their own country from Napata through three more dynasties (Second - Fourth, 653-308 B.C.), retaining their essentially Egyptian culture, - art, religion, form of writing, and burial customs. This culture, however, shows a gradual decline as the direct contact with and inspiration from Egypt was cut off, and the more barbarous local culture came ever more to the fore.

During this period a city further to the south called Meroë, in what is now Berber Province, gradually grew in importance, and members of the royal family went from Napata to live there and establish a provincial government on behalf of the main branch ruling at Napata. This city of Meroë finally became so powerful that, about 308 B.C., the capital was transferred thither and the Meroitic branch of the Ethiopian royal family became the rulers of the country. Their control lasted from 308 B.C. to about A.D. 350, when the country was conquered by Aizana, King of Axum, and the Meroitic Kingdom came to an end. The Meroitic Kingdom is the direct descendant of the Ethiopian and its culture shows the same gradual decline from the Egyptian prototype; the Egyptian forms in art became ever more debased, the local language (called Meroitic) replaced Egyptian in the inscriptions, and the burial customs of Egypt were superseded by local ones, including the element of human sacrifice. Some contact was, however, kept up with Egypt, and even with countries further afield, as is manifested by the finding of occasional objects of Alexandrian Greek and even true Attic Greek origin in the tombs.

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Case 1 (under the windows)

Three groups of tablets from foundation deposits placed under the corners of the pyramids of kings of the Second Ethiopian Dynasty. It was customary to bury such deposits under the corners of pyramids and other royal buildings at the time of construction. They bear the name of the builder and are made of various materials: gold, silver, bronze, lead, fai-

(Case 1, cont.)

ence, alabaster, crystal, beryl, jasper, and lapis lazuli.
Ethiopian Nuri*

Bead bag. This is the original bag, the beads of faience and gilded glass having been restrung in the original order on modern thread.
Ethiopian El Kurruw*

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Case 2 (wall opposite door, nearest windows)

pper Shelf

. Bronze mirror with silver handle in the form of papyrus column.
Ethiopian Nuri

. Silver beaker, uninscribed.
Meroitic Meroë

. Gold vase with inscribed handle bearing names King Aspalta. The vase has partially collapsed om the weight of earth resting on it in the tomb.
Ethiopian Nuri

Gold cup with cover from the tomb of Malewiyab-an.
Ethiopian Nuri

Silver mirror of King Nataklabataman. Handle the form of a papyrus column against which stand o hawk-headed and two human-headed figures. Above the gold rim of the royal cartouche. The name is le of colored paste.
Ethiopian Nuri

Four blue-glazed faience cups from foundation posits under the pyramids of Aspalta, Anlaman, and nsalsa, inscribed with the names of these kings.
Ethiopian Nuri

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e cemeteries in which the members of the royal ily of Ethiopia were buried at Napata are called Kurruw and Nuri.

(Case 2, cont.)

Lower Shelf

1. Silver mask from a mummy. A necklace is indicated by incised lines on the neck.
Ethiopian Nuri

2. Electrum thumb-ring. Found together with silver seal rings (shown in Case 5 opposite) in a bronze jewel casket at Gammai, a cemetery in Nubia excavated by Oric Bates. Lent by Mrs. Oric Bates.
Meroitic Gammai

3. Gold cover of a cup, with handle on top in the form of an ape's head, made of electrum (?). From the tomb of Harsiotef.
Ethiopian Nuri

4. Five alabaster vases found in tombs of the Ethiopian Period at Meroë.
Ethiopian Meroë

5. Silver basin inscribed with the cartouches of Queen Khenensaiyuw.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

6. Silver drinking cup with two spouts, uninscribed.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

7. Gold tweezers with incised decoration on the handle. Found in the tomb of King Aspalta.
Ethiopian Nuri

8. Five cylinder sheaths of gold and gilded electrum (electrum is an alloy of gold and silver), four decorated and one plain. Found in the tombs of Aspalta, Nataklabataman, and Talakhaman. The purpose of these objects is unknown.
Ethiopian Nuri

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Case 3 (on wall at right of Case 2)
Ethiopian and Meroitic Amulets and Ornaments

Wall of Case

1. Necklace of pink-veined stone barrel-beads.
Ethiopian Meroë

2. Necklace of gold and carnelian pendants, every third one being a 'heart' amulet, the pendants separated by faience ring-beads.
Meroitic Meroë

(Case 3, wall of case, cont.)

3. Necklace of gold and carnelian ball-beads.
Meroitic Meroë

4. Necklace of carnelian, black stone, and white stone barrel-beads.
Ethiopian Meroë

5. Necklace of gold wire ring-beads between alternate pairs of carnelian and white stone ball-beads.
Meroitic Meroë

6. Necklace of gold 'heart' amulets strung with carnelian and faience ring-beads.
Meroitic Meroë

7. Necklace of gold wire rings, with a gold tubular terminal at each end.
Meroitic Meroë

8. Necklace of three strands with an ornamental gold spreader in the centre. The two upper strands of gold, carnelian, and blue glass ball-beads; the lower strand of gold ball-beads strung with pendants of gold, amazon stone, blue glass, lapis lazuli, and carnelian.
Meroitic Meroë

9. Necklace of carnelian barrel-beads.
Ethiopian Meroë

10. Necklace composed of carnelian and gold ball-beads. Found in an early Ethiopian tumulus grave, together with Nos. 1, 2, and 4.
Early Ethiopian El Kurruw

11. Necklace of graded gold barrel-beads. Found in an early Ethiopian tumulus grave, together with Nos. 1-3.
Early Ethiopian El Kurruw

12. Necklace composed of carnelian barrel-beads grouped with gold ball- and barrel-beads. Found in an early Ethiopian tumulus grave together with Nos. 1, 3, and 4.
Early Ethiopian El Kurruw

13. Necklace composed of three strands of small gold beads, three strands of carnelian, and one strand of blue glass beads. The seven strands twisted together and held in tubular gold terminals.
Meroitic Meroë

(Case 3, wall of Case, cont.)

(This necklace, together with No. 17, was found with the jewelry at the window-end of Case 6 in the undisturbed deposit of jewelry in the tomb of a queen.)

14. Necklace of carnelian ball-beads alternating with gold discs. Found in an early Ethiopian tumulus grave, together with Nos. 2-4.
Early Ethiopian — El Kurruw

15. Necklace of hollow gold and veined glass beads, with two tubular gold terminals. (This necklace, together with No. 16, was found with the jewelry at the window-end of Case 6 in the undisturbed deposit of jewelry in the tomb of a queen.)
Meroitic — Meroë

16. Necklace of jasper and amazon stone barrel-beads.
Ethiopian — Meroë

17. Necklace of carnelian and beryl ball-beads.
Ethiopian — Nuri

18 and 19. Two strings of glass beads from the excavations of Oric Bates at Gammai. Lent by Mrs. Oric Bates.
Meroitic — Gammai

20. Bracelet of gold wire bearing a 'sacred eye' amulet of crystal. From the tomb of King Harsiotef.
Ethiopian — Nuri

21. Five gold rosette buttons from tombs of various kings. Used as ornaments.
Ethiopian — Nuri

22. Fourteen ornamental gold pendants in the form of trefoil leaves with two buds.
Meroitic — Meroë

Floor of Case

23. Seven amulets of glazed faience, found in early Ethiopian tombs.
Early Ethiopian — El Kurruw

24. Two glazed faience cups from foundation deposits under the pyramid of King Anlaman, inscribed with the name of the king.
Ethiopian — Nuri

25. Fourteen gold pendants of flower-like form, from the tomb of King Talakhaman.
Ethiopian — Nuri

(Case 3, floor of case, cont.)

26. Four 'sacred eye' amulets of gold from the tomb of King Shabaka.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

27. Gold amulet in the form of a hippopotamus.
Ethiopian — Meroë

28. Bracelet of ten gold elements, each bearing a tiny figure in relief.
Meroitic — Meroë

29. Necklace of cylindrical beads of red, white, and mottled stone.
Ethiopian — Meroë

30. String of beads made of various stones, from the tomb of Queen Iusatha.
Ethiopian — Nuri

31. Necklace made from a thin gold band twisted into corkscrew shape, with one bead of crystal.
Ethiopian — Nuri

32. Necklace of carnelian ball-beads and pendants of carnelian, alabaster, and obsidian.
Ethiopian — Meroë

33. Two gold amulets, each representing twin figures of Harpocrates.
Ethiopian — Meroë

34. Bracelet of twenty-four gold elements representing ram's heads crowned with the solar disc.
Meroitic — Meroë

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Case 4 (on end wall, opposite windows)

Glazed faience amulets from early Ethiopian tombs at El Kurruw, representing different Egyptian gods and sacred emblems (see labels in Case). They are of especial interest first, for the multiplicity of attributes associated with some of the deities, indicating the great elaboration and complexity of Egyptian mythological symbolism in the late Empire, and second, for the elaboration of the grotesque, especially the fondness for steatopygy, a characteristic foreign to native Egyptian art. This latter peculiarity is one of the indications of local influence on Egyptian culture. Steatopygy in art disappears under the renaissance of Egyptian influence

(Case 4, cont.)

in Ethiopia caused by the conquest of Egypt under the kings of the First Ethiopian Dynasty, only to reappear again with the dying out of Egyptian influence in the latter part of the Meroitic Period.

1. Faience plaque with relief figure of the god Ptah, from an early Ethiopian grave at Meroë.
Early Ethiopian Meroë

(All other objects in this Case are from El Kurruw.)

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Case 5 (centre of doorway wall)

This case contains, on the four upper shelves, a selection from the Museum's collection of scarabs and seals, covering all periods from the Old Kingdom to Roman and Meroitic times. On the lower shelves are some of the finer amulets and ornaments from Ethiopian and Meroitic tombs, together with selected pieces of jewelry and ornament from other sources. On Shelf 7 is a unique group of signet- and other finger-rings of Meroitic date, and on the bottom shelf a group of Ethiopian royal heart scarabs.

The shelves are numbered 1 to 9 from top to bottom. The objects are numbered in sequence from left to right. The small labels bearing Arabic numerals refer to the source of the objects so labelled (gifts and loans) as follows:

1. Gift of Miss Rosamond Lamb, in the name of Miss Rose Lamb.

2. Gift of Mrs. H. W. Toulmin.

3. Gift of Mrs. Oric Bates.

4. Gift of George W. Wales.

5. Gift of the Estate of Mrs. S. D. Warren.

6. Gift of William Lawrence and his children, in memory of Julia Cunningham Lawence.

7. Lent by Dr. Benjamin White.

8. Gift of Mrs. Robert F. Clark.

9. Gift from the Estate of Professor Henry Williamson Haynes, through Miss Sarah H. Blanchard.

(Case 5, cont.)

10. Gift of Miss Mary S. Ames.

11. Purchased from the Pierce Fund.

12. Gift of Dr. F. L. Burnett.

13. Lent by Mrs. Oric Bates.

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All objects in the following lists, unless otherwise stated, are from the Museum's excavations.

Scarabs and Seals (Shelves 1 to 4)

Scarabs are amulets made in the shape of the sacred scarabaeus beetle, which is a form of the sun-god. The lower face of the scarab is sometimes plain, but more often is decorated with geometric or other designs, representations of human or animal figures, or with hieroglyphic signs or inscriptions, sometimes with the name and titles of the owner, the name of a divinity, or indeed with an infinite variety of subjects. They were used not only as amulets to protect the owner, but very commonly as seals also, the design on the lower face being impressed into the sealing material of documents or containers of valuables, thus serving to identify the ownership of the object sealed. When used for this purpose they were worn on a string around the neck or sometimes mounted on a finger-ring. Scarabs are commonly made of faience or of steatite (a kind of soft stone), such scarabs being glazed a blue or green color. They are also found in various hard stones such as amethyst, carnelian, lapis lazuli, and rock crystal, being then most commonly without inscription or decoration on the lower face.

(Only objects of special interest are described below.)

Shelf 1

2. Faience scarab set in gold for swivelling on a finger-ring; inscribed with the name of an obscure king. Purchased, Sears Fund.
Seventh-Tenth Dynasty — Kom el Ahmar

3. Glazed steatite seal, inscribed on the back with the names of a Twelfth Dynasty king.
Twelfth Dynasty — Semna

(Case 5, Shelf 1, cont.)

10. Lapis lazuli scarab, the uninscribed lower face covered with sheet gold. Gift of Egyptian Research Account.
Twelfth Dynasty Harageh

17. Faience (?) scarab; a lion attacking a crocodile. Gift of the Egypt Exploration Fund.
Hyksos Period Tell el Yahudiyeh

18. Glazed steatite scarab, inscribed with the name of a Hyksos king.
Hyksos Period Semna

22. Glazed steatite scarab, with a piece of the original string by which it was suspended.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Sheikh Farag

23. Glazed steatite seal, the back representing a hedgehog. Gift of Mrs. H. W. Toulmin.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties

27. Glazed steatite scarab, set in the original gold ring.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Semna

39. Glazed steatite scarab, inscribed with the symbol signifying the unity of Upper and Lower Egypt,- a very fine example.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Semna

Shelf 2

22. Glazed steatite twin scarabs, cut in one piece and not separated.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Semna

24. Glazed steatite scarab, set in gold for mounting on a ring.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Semna

26. Glazed steatite scarab, inscribed with the name of the Lady Wah-ka.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Semna

28. Glazed steatite scarab, inscribed with the name and titles of an official.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Semna

31. Steatite scarab, set in bronze for mounting on a ring. Gift of Mrs. Oric Bates.
Twelfth-Eighteenth (?) Dynasties Gammai

35. Glazed steatite scarab, inscribed with the fig-

(Case 5, Shelf 2, cont.)

ure of a scorpion.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Semna

36. Steatite scarab inscribed with the figure of a gazelle.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Semna

39. Scarab inscribed with figure of a scarabaeus beetle.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Sheikh Farag

Shelf 3

1. Glazed faience seal in the form of a lion. Lower face inscribed.
Twelfth-Eighteenth Dynasties Sheikh Farag

13. Glazed steatite seal representing the head of the goddess Hathor. Lower face inscribed. Gift of the Egypt Exploration Fund.
New Kingdom Deir el Bahari

23. Glazed steatite scarab, inscribed with the figure of a king being carried on the shoulders of four men. Gift of William Lawrence and his children in memory of Julia Cunningham Lawrence.
Eighteenth-Nineteenth Dynasties

24. Glazed steatite scarab inscribed with a winged scarabaeus, above which appears the name of Thothmes I.
Eighteenth Dynasty Semna

25. Scarab of green jasper, inscribed with the 'Golden Horus' name of Thothmes I. Lent by Dr. Benjamin White.
Eighteenth Dynasty

26. Glazed steatite scarab inscribed with a vulture holding in its talons the head of a negro; symbolizing the subjugation of the southern peoples. Gift of Mrs. Robert F. Clark.
Eighteenth Dynasty

33. Scarab with the name of King Seti I and a representation of that king seizing captives by the hair. Gift of Miss Mary S. Ames.
Nineteenth Dynasty

35. Glazed steatite scarab set in a bronze finger-ring.
New Kingdom Semna

(Case 5, cont.)

Shelf 4

1. Stone amulet representing a goose.
Ethiopian Meroë

2. Amulet representing a vessel; the rim and handle of silver, the vessel of stone.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

3. Bone figure of Osiris; head-dress missing.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

4. Stone amulet representing a fish. From the tomb of King Shabaka.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

13. Scarab of rock crystal, with inscription. Gift of the Estate of Professor Henry Williamson Haynes through Miss Sarah H. Blanchard.
New Kingdom.

17-18. Two scarabs set in gold and in silver, for mounting on rings.
Ethiopian Meroë

19. Opaque green glass seal with hieroglyphic inscription on one face.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

21. Steatite scarab inscribed with a sphinx, the name of the god Amen-Ra, and the name of King Shabaka.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

22. Lapis lazuli scarab bound with gold bands, and with a flat gold base.
Meroitic Meroë

24. Glazed steatite scarab inscribed with the words "Every Happiness." Gift of George W. Wales.

25. Amulet of veined quartz.
Meroitic Meroë

26 and 28. Two tiny amulets of lapis lazuli representing seated boys, probably the god Harpocrates.
Meroitic Meroë

27. Amulet of moulded blue glass, representing a seated deity.
Meroitic Meroë

29. Amulet of rock crystal in the form of a duck.
Meroitic Meroë

(Case 5, cont.)

Shelf 5

1. Gold amulet, pig.
Ethiopian — Meroë

2. Gold amulet, hippopotamus.
Ethiopian — Meroë

3. Gold amulet, hawk wearing the crown of Upper and Lower Egypt.
Ethiopian — Meroë

4 and 5. Gold amulets, twin figures of the god Harpocrates.
Ethiopian — Meroë

6. Gold amulet, the god Ptah.
Ethiopian — Meroë

7. Gold ear-stud, ram's head and solar disc of the god Amen-Ra.
Ethiopian — Meroë

8. Gold amulet, the goddess Isis suckling Horus.
Ethiopian — Meroë

9. Amulet, the goddess Maat in malachite with the feather of Truth in silver on her head.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

10. Gold amulet, the goddess Bast.
Ethiopian — Meroë

11. Gold ornament in the form of a scarab.
Meroitic — Meroë

12. Gold ornamental head of wand.
Meroitic — Meroë

13. Gold amulet, Isis suckling Horus.
Ethiopian — Meroë

14. Gold amulet, hawk, found in the tomb of King Tirhaqa.
Ethiopian — Nuri

15. Gold pendant.
Ethiopian — Nuri

16. Gold amulet, head of the goddess Hathor.
Ethiopian — Nuri

17. Gold and crystal amulet, head of Hathor on a

(Case 5, Shelf 5, cont.)

sphere of rock crystal. Found in the tomb of a queen of Piankhy.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

18. Gold ornament, ram's head and disc as a brooch.
Ethiopian Nuri

19. Gold pendant from tomb of Queen Iusatha.
Ethiopian Nuri

20. Gold finger-ring from the tomb of King Tirhaqa.
Ethiopian Nuri

21-23. Gold amulets, twin figures of the god Harpocrates.
Ethiopian Meroë

24. Gold amulet, papyrus column, found in the tomb of Tirhaqa.
Ethiopian Nuri

25. Silver ornament, Isis suckling Horus. The details are finely incised on both front and back.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

26. Gold ear-ring with carnelian pendant.
Meroitic Meroë

27-28. Two gold ear-rings.
Meroitic Meroë

29. Gold amulet case.
Ethiopian Meroë

30. Natural gold nugget used as a pendant.
Ethiopian Meroë

31. Gold ear-ring in form of a bird.
Meroitic Meroë

32. Gold ear-ring.
Meroitic Meroë

33. Pendant, stone wrapped in sheet gold.
Ethiopian Meroë

Shelf 6

1. Gold amulet, hawk wearing crown of Lower Egypt. The eyes are of garnet. Gift of William Lawrence and his children in memory of Julia Cunningham Lawrence.
Twelfth Dynasty (?)

(Case 5, Shelf 6, cont.)

2. Gold amulet, hippopotamus. Gift of William Lawrence and his children in memory of Julia Cunningham Lawrence.
Twelfth Dynasty (?)

3. Signet-ring of iron.
New Kingdom Semna

4. Silver amulet, the god Osiris. Gift of the Egypt Exploration Fund.
Eighteenth Dynasty Abydos

5. Gold amulet, ibis, with the feathers inlaid in colored paste. Purchased, Pierce Fund.
New Kingdom

6. Gold pectoral, the soul as a bird. Gift of Dr. F. L. Burnett.
Saite (?)

7. Gold ear-ring with pearl drop. Gift of the Egypt Exploration Fund.
Roman Oxyrhynchus

8. Silver amulet, ibis, with the feather of Truth.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

9. Marble amulet, cat, from the tomb of Queen Tabiry.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

10. Faience amulet, the gods Amen and Horus, from the tomb of Queen Tabiry.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

11. Marble amulet, lioness, from the tomb of Queen Tabiry.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

12. Vase amulet of rose quartz, from the tomb of Queen Tabiry.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

13. Imitation of a snail-shell in steatite; inscribed.
Ethiopian El Kurruw

14. Amulet of amethyst, baboon crowned with sun-disc.
Meroitic Meroë

15. Finger-ring of stone, with blue glass bezel.
Meroitic Meroë

(Case 5, Shelf 6, cont.)

16. Stone amulet, hawk wearing double crown.
Meroitic Meroë

17. Carnelian finger-ring, found with the undisturbed deposit of jewelry in the tomb of a Meroitic queen.
Meroitic Meroë

(See Case 3, Nos. 16-17 and Case 6, window-end.)

18. Silver amulet, ram.
Meroitic Meroë

Shelf 7

Gold, silver, and electrum signet-rings of the Meroitic Period. Mostly from Meroë.

1-10 and 26-35 are of electrum and silver.

11-25 are of gold.

2, 6, and 10 were found together with other rings in a bronze jewel casket. Lent by Mrs. Oric Bates.
Gammai

(See Case 2, No. 13.)

13. Gold ring, with an inscription in Greek.

15 and 31 are from the undisturbed deposit of jewelry in the tomb of a Meroitic queen.

(See Shelf 6, No. 17; Case 3, Nos. 16-17; and Case 6, window-end.)

23. Gold ring, the bezel set with a veined stone engraved with a human head.

27. Silver ring, set with a stone or glass jewel.

28. Silver ring. The bezel is of faience incised with two fish. Lent by Mrs. Oric Bates.
Gammai

35. Silver ring, in part plated with gold.

(Case 5, cont.)

Shelf 8

1-3. Three silver handles from a funeral chest, decorated with heads of a baboon, a jackal, and a hawk. The fourth handle, which was not found, bore a human head. These heads symbolize the four Canopic Genii associated with mummification. From the tomb of King Anlaman.
Ethiopian — Nuri

4. Silver statuette of a goddess, from the tomb of Queen Kashta-Neferu-Ka.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

5. Glazed faience sphinx.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

6. Glazed faience cylinder of unknown purpose.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

7. Glazed faience pectoral ornament from the tomb of a queen of Piankhy.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

8. Glazed faience shrine containing a figure of the god Horus.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

9. Steatite ball inscribed with the name of Queen Khenensaiyuw.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

10. Ram-headed sphinx of electrum, seated on a pillar decorated with inlays of red, green, and blue paste in cloisons of electrum. The head-dress is lacking.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

11. Gold statuette of a ram-headed deity. Under the base is a dedicatory inscription of Neferuwi-Bastet. Gift of the Egypt Exploration Fund.
Twenty-third Dynasty — Ehnasiyeh

12. Ram-headed sphinx of electrum, seated on a green stone pillar. The head-dress, now missing, was attached by means of the iron spike on top of the head.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

13. Electrum ram's head mounted on a hollow octagonal crystal rod. Head-dress is missing.
Ethiopian — El Kurruw

(Case 5, cont.)

Shelf 9

1. Glazed faience amulet representing the god Ptah, set in a gold frame.
Meroitic — Meroë

2. Gold bracelet with colored enamel inlay, found in a Meroitic pyramid at Napata.
Meroitic — Gebel Barkal*

3. Relief face of a Meroitic king in glass; part of an inlaid design.
Meroitic — Meroë

4-10. Seven stone heart scarabs of members of the Ethiopian royal family. (The heart scarab is an amulet which is substituted for the real heart in mummification.)
Ethiopian — El Kurruw, Nuri, and Meroë

11. Heart scarab of dark green stone. Uninscribed. Gift of William Lawrence and his children in memory of Julia Cunningham Lawrence.
Late Dynastic

12. Glazed steatite scarab of Amenhotep III, made to commemorate his feat in having slain 102 lions on hunting expeditions during the first ten years of his reign. Purchased, Sears Fund.
Eighteenth Dynasty — Gurna

13. Glazed faience figure of a scorpion.
Hyksos Period — Kerma

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Case 6

Long side facing door

The numbers refer to labels with the objects. All objects are of the Ethiopian Period.

1-5. Gold amulets from mummy wrappings.
Nuri

6. Gold amulet, vulture, from the mummy of Queen Atakhibaskan.
Nuri

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*The tombs of the Meroitic Period at Napata are in a cemetery called Gebel Barkal.

Case 6, long side facing door, cont.)

. Gold model of a whip. The lash was originally inaid with colored paste. From the tomb of King Hariotef.

Nuri

. Gold plate. 'Sacred eye' incised in one face. rom the tomb of Queen Malenra.

Nuri

. Gold lid with flexible gold chain, from a vessel nich was not preserved. From the tomb of King Aspalta.

Nuri

). Sheet of gold from the wrappings of the mummy of ing Shabaka, inscribed with his name in repoussé.

El Kurruw

. Gold model of an ax. From the tomb of Queen alenra.

Nuri

. Silver rod decorated with the head of a jackal; sed for dipping ointment from jars similar to those Cases 8 and 9. From the tomb of Queen Khenensaiyuw.

El Kurruw

. Gold collar of a queen of Shabataka. Hinged and nned at both sides for opening.

El Kurruw

. Necklace of gold beads from the tomb of an anstor of the Ethiopian kings.

El Kurruw

. Gold breast ornament from the mummy of King taklabataman. Winged figure of the goddess Isis.

Nuri

. Gold pendant from the tomb of King Tanutamon.

El Kurruw

. Silver rod decorated with the head of a hawk; ed for dipping ointment from jars similar to those Cases 8 and 9. From the tomb of Queen Khenensaiyuw.

El Kurruw

. Gold pendant from the tomb of King Nalmaya.

Nuri

. Fragments of ivory inalys representing foreign ptives, among them the head of a negro and of a byan. From the tomb of King Shabataka.

El Kurruw

Case 6, long side facing door, cont.)

0. Gilded silver figure of the Canopic Genius Kebeh-enuf. From the mummy of Queen Bathyly.
Nuri

1. Electrum rod decorated with the head of a jackal; sed for dipping ointment from jars similar to those n Cases 8 and 9. From the tomb of King Netaklabataman.
Nuri

2. Gold cap from a finger of the mummy of King Netak-abataman. (The fingers and toes of the Ethiopian royal ummies were so decorated.)
Nuri

3. Gold barrel-beads from the tomb of an ancestor of ne Ethiopian kings.
El Kurruw

Indow-end of Case

The entire contents of this section of Case 6 were ound in the burial chamber of Pyramid V of the Western emetery at Meroë, the tomb of a Meroitic queen who ved about 25 B.C., but whose name was not preserved. ne portion of the burial chamber where these objects re found had escaped the usual plundering owing to the llapse of the roof. A full account of the discovery this tomb may be found in "Two Royal Ladies of Meroë," mmunications to the Trustees, VII, Museum of Fine Arts, ston, 1924; this publication is on sale at the Museum may be obtained by mail from the Secretary, price post-id, $1.25.

x ear-rings of gold and enamel, of which one has a car-lian pendant set in gold. Six pairs were found, and e of each was retained by the Sudan Government.

o bracelets (one each of two sets) of gold and car-lian. These bracelets are exactly as found, except at they have been washed clean of dirt. They are ilt up on gold wire instead of thread.

o necklaces of plain gold beads, restrung on modern read.

ner objects from this tomb shown in this room are:

Necklaces: Case 3, Nos. 13 and 15

Amulets: Case 5, Shelf 4, Nos. 27 and 29

Rings: Case 5, Shelf 6, No. 17
Shelf 7, Nos. 15 and 31

(Case 6, cont.)

Long side away from door

Gold necklaces and bracelets from Meroitic tombs at Meroë, composed of groups of gold amulets strung together. This is a peculiarly Meroitic type of ornament; the amulets are designed not only for their efficacy as charms, but also for their decorative effect. Large numbers of these amulets were found at Meroë, and in certain cases complete or nearly complete groups have been reconstructed as shown.

At the bottom, seven gold bands which originally formed part of the decoration of a bow. They represent the binding of cord intended to strengthen the weapon, but are here used purely ornamentally. Note the gradation in size to fit the tapering form of the bow.

End away from window

Ornamental discs and studs from Meroitic tombs at Meroë. Most of these have a short shank at the back, surmounted by a small cap which may be detached, and the ornaments were found in pairs. They are probably ear ornaments. They are made of gold and the designs are in cloisonné, filled with colored paste or enamel, which is missing in some cases and has become discolored in others.

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Case 7

This case contains objects of silver and bronze illustrating the influence of Hellenistic Greek art on that of Meroë. All except the wine pitcher, on the floor of the Case, were found at Meroë, but some of them, notably the bronze head and the silver goblet with reliefs, were certainly imported, - probably from Alexandria.

Shelf

1. Bronze head from a statuette of Dionysus, with a wreath of vine leaves in his hair. On the brow is a fillet of iron and the eyes are inlaid. The hand and foot beside this head are from the same figure.

2. Bronze jug with a human face in relief at the base of the handle.

3. Silver goblet decorated with a judgment scene

(Case 7, Shelf, cont.)

in relief. Left to right: the king enthroned, altar, lictor, the condemned and two children, the executioner, and the block. Hellenistic School of Alexandria, about 50 B.C.

4. Silver strainer, the two handles representing the heads of geese or swans.

5. Silver chalice with two handles.

6. Bronze lamp, the end of the handle representing the fore part of a horse.

Floor

1. Bronze wine pitcher from a Meroitic tomb at Gammai. The vessel is so designed that it will tip over when empty. Gift of Mrs. Oric Bates.

2. Bronze basin with foot and two handles. In the centre inside is a medallion with a representation in relief of Actaeon and the dogs.

Pedestal (in centre of room)

Rhyton of Attic red-figured ware borne on the back of an Amazon on horseback. Signed by the Athenian potter Sotades (about 450 B.C.). This masterpiece of the Greek potter's art was found in a pyramid at Meroë, 1300 miles up the Nile from Alexandria. The object may have been acquired in trade or may have been a gift brought by an ambassador to the Meroitic Court. Its preservation and burial in the tomb indicates an appreciation for Greek art on the part of the Meroitic rulers.

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Case 8

Alabaster ointment and toilet jars from the Ethiopian royal tombs at Nuri.

Glazed faience cups from foundation deposits under the Ethiopian royal pyramids at Nuri. Each is inscribed with the name of the king.

Case 9

Alabaster ointment and toilet jars of Ethiopian date from Nuri and Meroë.

Glazed faience cups from foundation deposits under the Ethiopian royal pyramids at Nuri, each inscribed with the name of the king.

Shelf 1

1. Alabaster jar with a band of inscription around the body, including the name of King Aspalta.
Ethiopian Meroë

Shelf 2

2. Alabaster jar with the neck made in a separate piece.
Ethiopian Meroë

3. Jar of yellow limestone. The neck is made in a separate piece.
Ethiopian Meroë

4. Glazed faience bowl from a Meroitic tomb at Napata.
Meroitic Gebel Barkal

5. Alabaster bottle, possibly an imitation of a glass one.
Meroitic Meroë

Shelf 3

6. Twin vases of alabaster; the two bodies made in one piece, the necks each made separately.
Meroitic Meroë

7. Vessel of alabaster made in one piece in imitation of an ibex bound for sacrifice. The horns are made of slate.
Ethiopian Meroë

= 1928.